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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO ISLAMABAD, KABUL,
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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR, AF

SUBJECT: PODGORNYY PLUGS ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY IN
AFGHANISTAN

1. SUMMARY: AS PODGORNYY BEGINS HIS AFGHANISTAN VISIT, WE
ARE STRUCK BY EMPHASIS WHICH HE PLACED ON ASIAN COLLECTIVE
SECURITY IN HIS SPEECH AT MAY 21 STATE DINNER. HE DEVOTED
HALF HIS SPEECH TO SUBJECT AND CAME CLOSE TO ACKNOWLEDGING
THAT SOVIET PROPOSAL HAS ANTI- CHINESE THRUST. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO PRAVDA TEXT OF SPEECH, PODGORNYY GAVE
LENGTHY EXPOSITION OF NEED FOR " SYSTEM" OF COLLECTIVE
SECURITY IN ASIA. THIS PROBLEM, HE ASSERTED, IS " COMPLEX"
BUT " FULLY RIPENED" AND " ACHIEVABLE." THE SOVIET UNION IS
" SINCERELY" PREPARED TO COOPERATE WITH OTHER STATES IN ITS
REALIZATION AND BELIEVES THAT SUCH A SYSTEM IS IN INTEREST
OF ALL ASIAN PEOPLES AND INTERNATIONAL PEACDPM
PYOZTHPEVIEWING THREE PRINCIPAL TROUBLESPOTS IN ASIA, PODGORNYY
CHARACTERIZED ARAB- ISRAELI CONFLICT AS " ONE OF MOST DANGEROUS,"
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INDOCHINA AS PROVIDING GROUNDS FOR HOPING THAT " PROBLEMS EXISTING THERE WILL FIND THEIR OWN SOLUTION," AND SUBCONTINENT AS " STEADILY MOVING TOWARD FURTHER NORMALIZATION." ASIAN CONFLICTS ARE LEGACY OF IMPERIALISM , AND IMPERIALISTS CONTINUED TO RESIST PEACE IN ASIA. MOREOVER, " CERTAIN ADVENTURIST CIRCLES ARE ACTING IN UNISON WITH IMPERIALISTS, AND PROCEEDING FROM HEGEMONISTIC ASPIRATIONS LAY CLAIM TO A LEADING ROLE IN ASIA AND SEEK TO SHARPEN RELATIONS BETWEEN STATES, THEREBY INTERFERING WITH NORMALIZATION OF INTERNATIONAL SITUATION."

4. COMMENT: PROMINENCE OF COLLECTIVE SECURITY THEME IN PODGORNYY'S SPEECH SUGGESTS HE WILL SEEK AFGHAN ENDORSEMENT OF SOVIET PROPOSAL, PROBABLY BY MEANS OF FORMULATION IN FINAL COMMUNIQUE SIMILAR TO OR EVEN STRONGER THAN ONE CONTAINED IN COMMUNIQUE FOLLOWING KOSYGIN'S VISIT TO IRAN LAST MARCH. FULMINATION AGAINST " ADVENTURIST CIRCLES" COMES VERY CLOSE TO ADMITTING POTENTIAL ANTI- CHINESE THRUST OF " SYSTEM" OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY, WHICH IS SOMETHING SOVIETS HAVE STUDIOUSLY AVOIDED IN PAST. THIS, OF COURSE, PUTS AFGHANISTAN ON SPOT BOTH AS REGARDS ITS GENERAL POLICY OF NONALIGNMENT, EARLIER REAFFIRMED BY KING, AND ITS SPECIFIC POLICY OF MAINTAINING BALANCE BETWEEN USSR AND CHINA. DESPITE HIS LENGTHY DISCUSSION OF ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY, PODGORNYY DID NOT DEVELOP IDEA BEYOND EARLIER SOVIET LEADERSHIP FORMULATIONS OF " SYSTEM" AS GENERAL SET OF PRINCIPLES FOR GOVERNING BEHAVIOR BETWEEN ASIAN STATES. HIS FAILURE TO ALLUDE PUSHTU PROBLEM, RAISED BY KING IN HIS SPEECH AT STATE DINNER, REFLECTS SOVIET DESIRE TO KEEP THIS ISSUE FROM BECOMING NEW LOCUS OF REGIONAL TENSIONS IN ASIA. DUBS UNQUOTE RUSH.

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